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The New Indian Express wishes its readers a HAPPY Makara Sankranthi

TRUMP ON VERGE OF SECOND IMPEACHMENT IN HOUSE

Democratic Party-controlled US House of Representatives is all set to impeach President Trump on Thursday morning

FIVE REPUBLICANS WILL SUPPORT THE MOVE

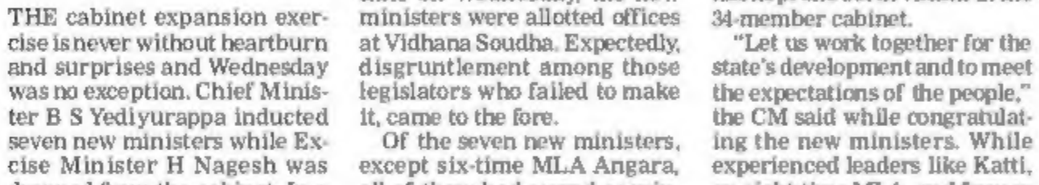
While Trump's first impeachment in 2019 brought no Republican votes, this time at least five Republican leaders have said they will support the Democrat move. The article of impeachment charges Trump with a count of 'incitement of insurrection' for his actions on January 6, when he delivered a speech inciting his supporters to lay siege to the Capitol

DON TAKES NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR RIOTS

- Trump has taken no responsibility for the Capitol riots but cautioned that the impeachment move is causing "tremendous danger to our country, and it's causing tremendous anger"
- More Republicans are expected to break away from party lines and vote to impeach Trump as US President | P19

67%

THE MAJORITY NEEDED IN THE SENATE TO REMOVE A SITTING U.S. PRESIDENT



Governor Vajubhai Vala and Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa with the seven new ministers after they took oath of office at Raj Bhavan in Bengaluru on Wednesday | VINOD KUMAR T

BSY Cabinet adds the power of seven; Nagesh dropped

Muniratna left out despite CM's promise, one berth kept vacant

ASHWINI M SRIPAD @Bengaluru

THE cabinet expansion exercise is never without heartburn and surprises and Wednesday was no exception. Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa inducted seven new ministers while Excise Minister H Nagesh was dropped from the cabinet. In a surprising development, MLA N Muniratna failed to make it to the cabinet despite an assurance from the CM himself that he will get a ministerial berth.

In the much-awaited rejig, the CM inducted MLCs M T B Nagaraj, R Shankar and C P Yogeshwar along with MLAs Umesh Katti, S Angara, Murugesh Nirani and Aravind Limbavali into the cabinet. Late on Wednesday, the new ministers were allotted offices at Vidhana Soudha. Expectedly, disgruntlement among those legislators who failed to make it, came to the fore.

Of the seven new ministers, except six-time MLA Angara, all of them had served as ministers earlier in various governments. While the portfolios for the new ministers are likely to be allocated soon, Nagesh, who was dropped from the cabinet, has been appointed as chairman of the Ambedkar Development Corporation with cabinet rank. With his resignation, CM has kept one berth vacant in the 34-member cabinet.

"Let us work together for the state's development and to meet the expectations of the people," the CM said while congratulating the new ministers. While experienced leaders like Katti, an eight-time MLA, and former ministers Nirani and Limbavali joined the cabinet, the CM came under fire from his own party legislators over the lack of representation in the cabinet for many districts as it has turned out to be heavily Bengaluru- and Belagavi-centric. P4

INSIDE ▸▸ MORE THAN 50% FROM 2 DISTRICTS | OLD-TIMERS SEETHE OVER CHOICES P4

Multi-role fighter plane

- Tejas is a light weight, multi-role supersonic aircraft (both fighter and trainer)
- Designed to carry a plethora of air-to-air, air-to-surface, precision-guided and standoff weaponry
- Single-engine aircraft with delta wing designed for air combat and offensive air support with reconnaissance and anti-ship as its secondary roles
- Extensive use of advanced composites in airframe ups strength to weight ratio, gives it longer fatigue life and low radar signatures

Mega ₹46K-cr deal for 83 LCAs

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

IN a big boost to the indigenous defence manufacturing sector, the Cabinet Committee on Security on Wednesday approved the procurement of 83 Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas, worth nearly ₹46,000 crore.

In all, 73 LCA Tejas Mk-1A fighters and 10 LCA Tejas Mk-1 trainers are to be bought at a cost of ₹45,696 crore from Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd, Bengaluru, which is developing the aircraft. Besides, a ₹1,202 crore deal for the design and development of infrastructure for spares and repairs of Tejas was also approved.

The first flight of the Tejas Mark 1A is expected by the end of 2022. The LCA is equipped with an Active Electronically Scanned Array Radar, Beyond Visual Range Missiles, Electronic Warfare Suite and Air-to-Air Refuelling facilities to enhance their combat ability and maintainability.

HAL chairman R Madhavan called the decision a major boost in the atmanirbhar (self-sufficiency) drive in the aerospace and aeronautics sector. "The production rate for this increased requirement by IAF is being augmented by HAL from 8 to 16 aircraft per year," he added.

The Mk-1A variant is an indigenously designed, developed and manufactured state-of-the-art modern 4+ generation fighter aircraft. "It is the first "Buy (Indian-Indigenously Designed, Developed and Manufactured)" category procurement of combat aircraft with an indigenous content of 50%, which will progressively reach 60% by the end of the programme," the Defence Ministry said.

About 560 large and small companies are contributing to the Tejas programme. "It is estimated that when the LCA MK1A programme kicks off, it will generate primary jobs to 5,000 people across the country, foster local industry and help skill up the Indian workforce," added Madhavan.

VACCINE VIALS ON THE MOVE TO DISTRICTS

RANJANI MADHAVAN & IFFATH FATHIMA @Bengaluru

AFTER the arrival of Covishield vaccine vials on Tuesday, their distribution to most of the districts began on Wednesday afternoon and the exercise will be completed in a couple of days, ready to be administered on January 16.

Arundhati Chandrashekar, Managing Director, National Health Mission (NHM), said, "The Covid-19 vaccine distribution to the districts began on Wednesday afternoon, and will be completed in one or two days. We have the regular vaccine transportation vans we use for immunisations to collect vials from Bengaluru or the five other regional storage facilities."

Totally, there are 88 vaccine stores in Karnataka's immunisation cold chain network. The two largest state storage facilities are in Bengaluru and Belagavi. P3

EXPRESS READ

Property tax set to rise in cities

Bengaluru: Property Tax is set to increase in Bengaluru and in other corporations and municipal limits, which come under the KMC Act. The state cabinet meeting on Wednesday took up this issue, following a directive by the Union authorities | P4

Notice for inter-faith marriage optional: HC

Lucknow: In a judgement that may bring relief to inter-faith couples, the Allahabad High Court Wednesday declared as optional the mandatory publication of notice of intended marriages under the Special Marriage Act, saying it violated Right To Privacy

2 FIRs UNDER NEW COW SLAUGHTER ACT

Chikkamagaluru district saw the first two cases to be booked under the Karnataka Prevention of Slaughter and Preservation of Cattle Act, 2020, which was passed recently | P7

Shri Hardeep Singh Puri
Hon'ble Minister of State
(Independent Charge)
Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs,
Government of India

Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited

Shri B.S. Yediyurappa
Hon'ble Chief Minister,
Government of Karnataka

BENGALURU MISSION 2022
Revitalizing Bengaluru...

For enabling faster commute and smart mobility.

Inauguration of 6 km of Metro Green Line
from Yelachenahalli Metro Station to
Silk Institute Metro Station
at Konanakunte Cross Metro Station
on 14 January, 2021 at 4.30 pm

Flagging off by

Shri Hardeep Singh Puri
Hon'ble Minister of State
(Independent Charge)
Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs,
Government of India
(through video conferencing)

Shri B.S. Yediyurappa
Hon'ble Chief Minister
Government of Karnataka

Presided by

Shri M. Krishnappa
Hon'ble Member of Legislative Assembly,
Bengaluru South

Chief Guests

Shri D.V. Sadananda Gowda
Hon'ble Minister for Chemicals & Fertilizers,
Government of India

Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman
Hon'ble Minister of Finance & Corporate Affairs,
Government of India

Shri Govinda M. Karajola
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister & Minister for Public Works,
Government of Karnataka

Dr. C.N. Ashwath Narayan
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister & Minister for Higher Education,IT & BT, Science & Technology, Skill Development, Entrepreneurship & Livelihood
Government of Karnataka

Shri Laxman Sangappa Savadi
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister & Minister for Transport,
Government of Karnataka

Shri R. Ashoka
Hon'ble Minister for Revenue,
Government of Karnataka

Shri S. Suresh Kumar
Hon'ble Minister for Primary & Secondary Education & Saksha,
Government of Karnataka

Shri V. Somanna
Hon'ble Minister for Housing,
Government of Karnataka

Shri B.A. Basavaraja
Hon'ble Minister for Urban Development,
Government of Karnataka

Shri. S.T. Somashekar
Hon'ble Minister for Cooperation,
Government of Karnataka

Shri K. Gopalaiah
Hon'ble Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs,
Government of Karnataka

Shri S.R. Vishwanath
Hon'ble Chairman,
Bangalore Development Authority

Shri G. Mariswamy
Hon'ble Chairman,
Zilla Panchayat
Bengaluru Urban District

All Hon'ble MPs, MLAs, MLCs are cordially invited

Durga Shanker Mishra, IAS
Secretary
Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs
& Chairman, BMRCL

P. Ravi Kumar, IAS
Chief Secretary
Government of Karnataka

Rakesh Singh, IAS
Additional Chief Secretary
Urban Development Department
Government of Karnataka

Ajay Seth, IAS
Managing Director
BMRCL

The event will be streamed Live on Namma Metro's You Tube & Facebook Channel.
https://youtu.be/WefIZliiiQ4 https://fb.me/e/3GQ5qbRxb

As is enshrined in our Constitution, to safeguard public property and to abjure violence is the fundamental duty of every citizen of the country

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Director, Admissions : Admission Cell, Koel Campus, Po- KIIT, Bhubaneswar-751024, Odisha, India, Ph: 7788889911, 0674 - 2742103, 2741747, 2741389, Fax : 0674 - 2741465
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It has no other campus / off campus anywhere else in the country and globe.